

(1) By Jas Naylor

Behold you

RULERS,

And hearken proud

MEN

And

WOMEN,

Who have let in the spirit of the  
world into your hearts, whereby  
you are lifted up in the earth,  
hear what Truth saith.

**Y**OU have gained Riches, and you seek worldly  
Glory, an evil covetousness to your selves; and  
these idols being set up in your hearts to be wor-  
shipped, you rage and wonder why the children  
of light will not worship your Gods you have set up; and  
fall down before the glory of the World in you, to your  
are angry; but why are you so blind to think that such  
who have denied to bow to the same spirit and pride in  
themselves.

themselves, and have (through the Crosse) obtained power from above to cast out the same Idols out of their own hearts, and can they bow to them in another; nay, the day is come, and the children of light have found the living God to worship, and there is none besides him to us, and now in vain is the Idol preached; we cannot worship with you, however you be tormented, it is of God to smite the worlds Idols; and he alone will be worshipped who is mighty to save, what have we to do any more with Idolatry, pride cannot save us, nor can the worlds glory preserve in the hour of temptation though we should bow thereto; we cannot trust in uncertain riches, nor may we take counsell at silver or gold, stocks or heards, we have proved your Idols, and know what is in them, and we have found them destroyers and not Saviours; whatever your glory promises you (who most seek it) we know in its right hand is a lye, flattery, and falsehood, and all who loves it comes short of the glory of God, humility is our glory, and he is our Saviour, who saith, learn of me for I am lowly, and ye shall find rest for your soules, and this we have proved, and we find his words truth, and all losenell a lye; so having found the truth, the truth hath made us free, free from pride, free from vain-glory, free from that spirit that puts it on, and would have it worshipped, free from the manner of the Gentiles, who exercise Lordship in that nature which is out of the light and doctrine of Christ.

So the truth having made us free, in that liberty we stand fast, and may not be intangled again with your yoke of bondage, nor the manners of the Gentiles; and then you say its our pride and stubbornesse, and many such accusations you cast on us; alas what darknesse is this, and how have you lost your judgement, what is Mordecai become prouder than Haman with you? is he proud who denies to worship pride, and he that would be worshipped free? is not this to put light for darknesse, and darknesse for light, to condemn the innocent to hide the offender? come down to that of God in your consciences, and let that judge, and let pride be

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be seen and ashamed where it is; and then you plead Scripture and say, Let every soule be subject to the higher power, and be subject to every ordinance of man for the Lords sake, &c. Now this we say also and own the Scriptures, but mans pride is not the higher power; in humility we find a power above pride, higher than oppression, higher than mens wills, higher than the lusts of the eye, yea higher than all that in man would exalt against it; so we deny the lower, that we may subject our selves to that which excelleth, which is ordained of God, and to every ordinance of man are we subject for the Lords sake; but should we bow to the spirit of pride, we should betray the Lord, and give his honour to another, and that is not for the Lords sake, and what is against him for his sake we denie, and with him suffer under it, as witnesses for him against it, so we give Caesar his due, and honour to whom it belongs, but all glory and worship to God alone, to whom it is due.

But you say, that worship we plead for is Civil, not Religious, but where do you read in Scripture of civil worship? we find, honour all men in the Lord, and that which is in the Lord, is Religious and that which is not in the Lord is Idolatrous, is there any thing honourable in man but the Image of God which is Spirituall, he that worships where that is not, worships the beast, or that which is worse, the Devil, and if any bow to that of God in man, how comes it not to be religious? and yet you say for conscience sake and not religious, so your distinctions will not gain worship from them who know God and his Image, and the beast and his image in their severall appearances, and by this are they known for ever, he that's from above seeks not honour from man, but that honour which is of God alone; Gods presence in him makes him honourable in the hearts of all that loves God, so God gives him grace, and glory, and honour, but the other must have none from God, who abides not in that which is honourable, and so becomes as the beast seeking honour by force from such as he hath power over, and rages if he

cannot have it; and this nature hath no right to it, though the false Prophet joyn with him to plead for it, who must into the lake together; and all that worship the beast and his Image, must drink of the wine of the wrath of God, poured out without mixture, as saith the Scripture.

So you that are in place to rule, and seek for honour, seek first that which is honourable, and none can hold you from honour; and know it is the gift of God onely to such as honour him, and not themselves; seek that glory and honour that hath immortality and eternall life, which is obtained of God by continuance in well doing; seek humility that goes before honour; exalt justice; set up righteousness and truth in judgement; hold forth Gods sword to all people under you, and not your own wills, without respect of persons; then you honour God, and he will honour you; seek first the Kingdome of God; that he may rule in your own hearts, over your pride, over your passion, over lust, over covetousnesse, over respect of persons, and over all unrighteousnesse; so shall you set up the higher power in you, for every soule to be subject to, which that of God in every conscience shall answer to, then are you Ministers of God, and he shall adde to you that honour which is of God, which is spirituall, which is immortally binding every conscience and soule in subjection to your authority; which all that resist receive damnation to themselves, and this is religious and an ordinance of God, and receives not its honour from man, but from God alone, who hath ever honoured holy men and women that ruled for God with God, as you may read in the Scriptures, who never needed to seek it from men while they retained God; but *Saul* when God was departed from him, through covetousnesse and disobedience, cryed, Honour me before the people, who had lost the kingdom of God, had lost his honour, had lost that which binds the conscience, and to which the soule is to be subject,

subject, who cryed, Honor me before the People, from whom God was departed, who had departed from God, who sought honor to himself without God, the Kingdom of God being rent from him, his honor departed: So you that would have Honor, seek God, and retain him, exalt his Kingdom in your hearts; and he will add honor thereto; but if you be disobedient, and your own soules be not subject to the higher Power, then another power rules, to which the righteous soul cannot subject for conscience sake; then gets up he that's out of Gods Kingdom, and cries honor me before the people.

And this is he that sought *Dauids* life, and seeks the life of his seed, who is disobedient, who is covetous, who is greedy of Honor, who is a murderer, who keeps not the Word of God, nor abode in the Truth, to keep down Pride and vain glory; then the false Prophet cries worship this; so such as be out of the Faith of Christ, disobedient to the Law of God, and in respect of Persons; such as be Flatterers, Lyars, Scorners, Fighters, Sners, Drunkards, Swearers, and such as be out of the Kingdom of God, whose soules are not subject to the higher power for conscience sake, such bow and worship with putting off Hats, and bowing of the knee to the person, but the soul of such is not subject to the Power that is of God for conscience sake; yet such is the darkness of many Rulers, as to account this subjection to Authority, while such whose soules do truly bow to the Power of Righteousness, Justice, and equity, where ever it is; without flattering where it is not, are condemned for unmannerliness, disorder, and suffer as disobedient to Authority; but to that of God in every Conscience do we appear, whether such soules exalt the Power which is of God, and seek his honor, or their own, and so as you honor God, with God shall you be honored; but seek it as eagerly as you will without him it will flee from you, though flattery you may obtain, which will corrupt your judgment, and let in upon you everlasting dishonor. Wherefore turn to the Lord with your whole hearts, and seek



seek his Glory alone, that he may put upon you his Spirit of humility, and righteous judgment, that you may be covered therewith, as with a Garment, so shall you freely have our souls subjection, which now in secret mourns for you with Prayers and tears before God, and openly suffers under you for a testimony against you, and now you that are not in place to rule and seeks to be worshipped of us, what is it you would have us bow to, in you, or upon you? Gladly would we see humility appear in you, and behold you covered with the Spirit of God, that in our souls we might be subject thereto, and so in the Lord honor you; but should we bow to your Gold and Silver Lace, your costly Apparel, or Earthly Riches? To that of God in you all we appear, if we should not worship Idols, and break the Law of God, for which doing how should we be excused before God at the day of account; let such as fear God more than man; judg.

J. N.

**O** You Rulers and Teachers of these Nations, to which Christ Jesus hath shewed so much favor as to honor these Nations with his first appearance now after so long a night; and that from hence the Sun-rise of Righteousness should shine forth in clearness to the world over the head of all Idolatry, false Worships, corrupt Laws, violence and oppression, and all the numberless number of vain customs, pride and excess, in which the whole world lies in wickedness, and with which the Holy pure One is burdened, and hath been grieved these many yeers, against which he is now arisen in many of his Servants openly to declare, not only here, but in most parts of the World, and should you be the men now to set your selves against this work by evil intreating such as are called thereto, and are found therein, nor doth your Teachers go about it themselves; what will you answer the Lord to these things? is there no need

of

of this work at home or abroad? Is your Streets and markets clear, and your worships pure? Where can the pure eye of God look out, and not behold iniquity and provocation? do you look for his coming, and evil intreat his servants whom he sends to prepare his way before him? Would you have him to find you as *Sodom* at his coming? If you see these evils abound in the World, why do you set your selves against such as call to Repentance where these things most abound? Is your Streets and Temples prepared for the pure God to walk and be worshiped in with delight, when a mortal man who hath but modesty in his face cannot behold but be grieved with the excess of vanity and deceit shining openly therein? is the way prepared in your Streets & Temples for the Lamb, when a Lyon cannot pass for Briars & Thorns, and other fruitless Trees tearing, and haling, and bruising? Did you love him in truth you would also hate that which would grieve his holy spirit at his coming in your selves, and in others, and you would hinder none that come in his Name who seek to make an end of sin, seeing nothing else hinders his appearance, nor hath caused his departure from the children of men; and you that call your selves Ministers of Christ, had not the spirit of slumber possessed you this would be your work, did the holy Spirit dwell in your Houses, and look out at your windows, you could not be silent till you had driven Iniquity into a corner, and made Pride to blush, and Lying, swearing, and all cursed speaking afraid to utter its voyce in the streets, that the pure eye might bless you, and the holy one delight to walk in the open streets of your greatest Meetings; should not this be the work of the Ministers of Righteousness, and Messengers of Christ Jesus, rather than to petition the Rulers of the World against such as are found in this work, to the utmost of your power, hindering it both at home and abroad, neither going about it your selves, nor suffering them that would; were you seen to be diligent in this work, you should appear to be such Servants as truly wait for your Lords coming in  
Peace,

...tion from the bondage of Corruption, and the glorious  
Liberty of the Son of God, and the Joy and Peace of  
the King of Righteousness at his coming over the whole  
World.

**J. N.**

*These was Written in Oliver Cromwells Time, to him, his  
Rulers and Teachers, and published, and the former of  
them then printed, and now reprinted.*

**THE END.**

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